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PCT/IB 03/02895-
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RECD 22 SEP 2003

1W180 50T

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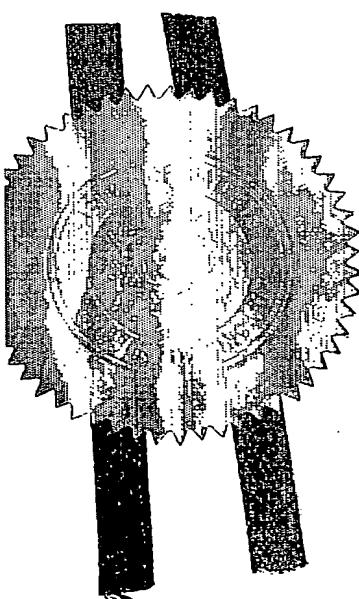
Application number : PCT/SG02/00166 [WITHDRAWN]

Applicants : PHILIPS ELECTRONICS SINGAPORE PTE LTD

Title of Invention : HAIR COLORING DEVICE WITH DETACHABLY CONNECTED BASE PART

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1/3

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PCT REQUEST

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0	For receiving Office use only	PCT/SG 02/00166
0-1	International Application No.	
0-2	International Filing Date	24 JUL 2002 (24-07-02)
0-3	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	REGISTRY OF PATENTS (SINGAPORE) PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION
0-4	Form - PCT/RO/101 PCT Request	
0-4-1	Prepared using	PCT-EASY Version 2.92 (updated 01.06.2002)
0-5	Petition	
	The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
0-6	Receiving Office (specified by the applicant)	Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (RO/SG)
0-7	Applicant's or agent's file reference	PSG020016WOP
I	Title of invention	HAIR COLORING DEVICE WITH DETACHABLY CONNECTED BASE PART
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2/3

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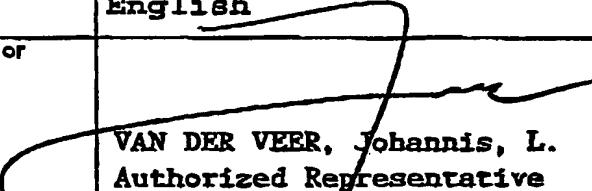
V	Designation of States		
V-1	Regional Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	EP: AT BE BG CH&LI CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE SK TR and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT	
V-2	National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	SG	
V-5	Precautionary Designation Statement In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit.		
V-6	Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations	NONE	
VI	Priority claim	NONE	
VII-1	International Searching Authority Chosen	European Patent Office (EPO) (ISA/EP)	
VIII	Declarations	Number of declarations	
VIII-1	Declaration as to the identity of the Inventor	-	
VIII-2	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the International filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	-	
VIII-3	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the International filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	-	
VIII-4	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	-	
VIII-5	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	-	
IX	Check list	number of sheets	electronic file(s) attached
IX-1	Request (including declaration sheets)	3	-
IX-2	Description	6	-
IX-3	Claims	2	-
IX-4	Abstract	1	EZABST00.TXT
IX-5	Drawings	2	-
IX-7	TOTAL	14	

3/3

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	Accompanying items	paper document(s) attached	electronic file(s) attached
IX-8	Fee calculation sheet	✓	-
IX-11	Copy of general power of attorney	✓	-
IX-17	PCT-EASY diskette	-	Diskette
IX-19	Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract	1	
IX-20	Language of filing of the international application	English	
X	Signature of applicant, agent or common representative		
X-1	Name (LAST, First)	VAN DER VEER, Johannis, L.	
X-2	Capacity	Authorized Representative	

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10-1	Date of actual receipt of the purported international application	24 JUL 2002 (24-07-02)
10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	
10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/EP
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

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11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau	
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Hair coloring device with detachably connected base part

The invention relates to an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair which device comprises a container for hair colouring additive, said container having a first side and a second side, said first side being covered by a base part provided with hair contacting elements and additive outlets, an additive displacing member being provided in the vicinity of said second side, and electrical actuator means for forcing said additive displacing member towards the base part for expelling additive from said container through said additive outlets.

The invention also relates to a container for use in an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair comprising said container, said container having a first side and a second side, said first side being covered by a base part provided with hair contacting elements and additive outlets, an additive displacing member being provided in the vicinity of said second side, and said device further comprising electrical actuator means for forcing said additive displacing member towards the base part for expelling additive from said container through said additive outlets.

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A device of the type defined in the opening paragraph is known from WO 98/51183. In the known device the hair contacting elements comprise hollow tines which project from the base part and are provided with outlet openings. Said base part and tines are an integrated part of the container. During operation the additive displacing member, formed by a plate, is forced by electrical actuator means towards the base part, as a result of which the hair colouring additive is transported from the container, via the outlet openings in the tines, to the hair.

A drawback of the known device is, that it is cumbersome for a user to clean the device after use. Additive remaining in the device after operation cannot be removed in a convenient way, which creates the risk of additive clogging the outlet openings when it dries up. This may disturb a proper operation of the device during the next use.

It is an object of the invention to provide a device of the type defined in the opening paragraph that is easy to clean and more user-friendly. To achieve this object, a device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair according to the invention is characterized in that the base part is in its entirety detachably connected to the device. Since 5 the base part in its entirety can be detached from the device, as if it were a lid, the inside of the container is uncovered which makes it easily accessible for cleaning. The base part itself can also easily be cleaned as a separate element, to remove remains of additive from the hair contacting elements and the outlet openings.

An embodiment of a device according to the invention is characterized in that 10 the base part is in its entirety detachably connected to the container. The base part in its entirety can be detached from the container, as if it were a lid, thus uncovering substantially the whole interior of the container and making it easily accessible for cleaning. Again the base part itself can also easily be cleaned as a separate element.

An embodiment of a device according to the invention is characterized in that 15 the device comprises at least one further base part which comprises further hair contacting elements and is in its entirety detachably connected to the device. This further base part comprises further hair contacting elements that are different from the first hair contacting elements of the first lid. The base part is interchangeable with the other base part. The user can thus choose a base part to be connected to the device which has the type of hair 20 contacting elements that are optimal for colouring the hair in the desired manner, for example only the roots, a tress of hair, or the whole head.

It is advantageous when the hair contacting elements comprise hollow pins provided with additive outlets. The base part provided with these pins allows a comfortable and easy manner of applying the hair colouring additive to the whole head.

25 It is furthermore advantageous when the further hair contacting elements comprise brush hairs. The further base part provided with these brush hairs allows for easy touching up of parts of the hair and for easy colouring of the roots of the hair.

An embodiment of a device according to the invention is characterized in that 30 a surface of at least one of the base parts, on which the hair contacting elements or the further hair contacting elements are provided, comprises a depression. When the device is placed on for example a table after or during use, with the hair contacting elements and outlet openings facing away from the surface of said table, said depression in the base part collects any residual hair colouring additive that might leak from the hair contacting elements and outlet openings that just have been used. In this manner it is prevented that the device or the table or

other surface it is on will be soiled by hair colouring additive, when the device is not in use and not yet cleaned. Furthermore, the residual additive can easily be wiped away by the user.

It is advantageous when said depression is provided in the vicinity of the hair contacting elements or the further hair contacting elements. In this manner the residual additive is collected at a location which is close to the hair contacting elements, by means of which it is avoided that the additive spreads over the base part and the device.

According to the invention, a container for use in an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair as mentioned in the opening paragraph is characterized in that the base part forms a part of the container and is in its entirety detachably connected to the container. Such a container may be an integrated part of a device for colouring of hair, but also a container which itself is detachably connected to such a device.

It is advantageous when the device comprises at least one further base part, which comprises further hair contacting elements and which base part forms a further part of the container and is in its entirety detachably connected to the container.

It is furthermore advantageous when, in such a container, a surface of at least one of the base parts, on which the hair contacting elements or the further hair contacting elements are provided, comprises a depression.

It is observed that US 5,937,866 discloses a device for colouring of hair comprising a container and various hair contacting elements which are detachably connected to the container. This device is of a different type than the device according to the invention, because in this device the transport of additive is manually activated. It is not an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair, comprising an additive displacing member which can be forced by electrical actuator means for expelling additive from said container through additive outlets.

The invention will be described in more detail hereinafter with reference to the drawings, in which

Fig. 1 shows a schematic side view of a first embodiment of an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair according to the invention,

Fig. 2 shows a perspective view of a second embodiment of an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair according to the invention,

Figs. 3a, 3b and 3c show details of a third embodiment of an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair according to the invention.

5 Fig. 1 shows a first embodiment of an electrical device 2 for applying a hair colouring additive to hair which comprises a container 3 for hair colouring additive. Said container 3 has a first side 4 and a second side 5. Said first side 4 is covered by a base part 6 provided with hair contacting elements 7, which in this embodiment comprise hollow pins provided with additive outlets 8', and an additive displacing member 9 is provided in the 10 vicinity of said second side 5. In this embodiment said additive displacing member 9 comprises a plate, but it may also comprise any other type of displacing member. During operation the displacing member 9 is forced by electrical actuator means 10 towards the base part 6 for expelling additive from said container 3 through said additive outlets 8. In this embodiment the electrical actuator means comprise batteries 104, a motor 103, a gear train 102, a pinion 106 with a cam profile and a piston 101. During operation, the device 2 is 15 activated by pushing an on/off button 105. When this button 105 is pressed, the motor 103 drives the gear train 102 which contacts the pinion 106 with the cam profile. The pinion 106 then pushes the piston 101 against the displacing member 9 towards the base part 6, by means of which additive is transported from the container 3 via the additive outlets 8 to the 20 hair. It is noted that the electrical actuator means can also comprise additional components, or different components such as for example a power plug instead of batteries.

The base part 6 is in its entirety detachably connected to the device 2, by means of which the device and the base part itself can be easily cleaned after use. In this embodiment, the base part 6 is in its entirety detachably connected to the container 3. This 25 renders the interior of the container 3 easily accessible for removing remains of additive from the container 3. The base part can separately be cleaned, allowing easy access to the hair contacting elements and the additive outlets for removing further remains of additive. In this manner clogging of the additive outlets is prevented and a proper operation of the device is ensured. The detachable connection may comprise any known type of detachable connection, 30 such as for example a snap- or a screw connection.

Furthermore, in this embodiment the container 3 is also detachably connected to the device 2. To ensure a proper sealing and locking of the container in the device, a locking ring 19 is provided at the location where the container is connected to the device.

As can be seen in Fig. 2, in a second embodiment the device comprises at least a further base part 61 which comprises further hair contacting elements 71, here formed by brush hairs 71', and which is in its entirety detachably connected to the device 2. This further base part 61 is thus interchangeable with the other base part 6, so that the user can choose 5 from these base parts a base part to be connected to the device which has the type of hair contacting elements that are optimal for colouring the hair in the desired manner. The brush hairs are for example especially suitable for colouring of the roots of the hair, and the pins are especially suitable for overall colouring of the hairs.

Figs.3a, 3b and 3c show a third embodiment of a device for applying a hair 10 colouring additive to hair according to the invention. In this embodiment a surface 11 of the base part 6, on which hollow pins are provided, and a surface 11' of the base part 61, on which brush hairs 71' are provided, comprise a depression 12, 12'. When the device 2 is put down during or after use, remains of additive may leak from the hair contacting elements and outlet openings that just have been used. This additive is prevented from leaking onto the 15 housing of the device or the surface the device rests on, because the depression 12 collects any of this residual hair colouring additive. Figs. 3b and 3c show in more detail the base parts 61 and 6, respectively, detachably connected to the container 3 via a screw connection and each provided with the depression 12, 12'. As can be seen in the Figures, said depression 12, 12' is provided in the vicinity of the pins 7' or the brush hairs 71'. Thus the residual additive is 20 advantageously collected at a location which is close to the hair contacting elements.

As can be seen in Figs. 3b and 3c, the base parts 61 and 6 are both provided with a screw thread at their outer circumferential surface. The container comprises substantially at its outer circumferential surface a screw thread, which is connectable with the screw thread of the base part. Furthermore, the diameters of both the container and the base 25 parts are substantially equal. Substantially the whole interior of the container can thus be exposed for cleaning purposes when the base part is detached from the container.

In the embodiments described hereinbefore, the container itself is also detachably connected to the device. The invention however also comprises devices in which the container is not detachable from the device and forms an integrated part of the device.

30 It is noted that the device may comprise various other base parts, which can each in their entirety be detachably connected to the device, and comprise different types of hair contacting elements. In this manner the user can make a choice for one of the interchangeable base parts, dependent on the type of hair contacting elements that are optimal

for colouring the hair in the desired manner, for example only the roots, a tress of hair, or the whole head.

Although the following does not form part of the invention in accordance with the claims of this application, it is furthermore noted, for the sake of disclosure, that a depression, provided in a surface of a base part on which surface hair contacting elements are provided, is also advantageous in a device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair in which the base part is not in its entirety detachably connected to the device and, for example, forms an integrated part of the device. The advantage of collecting leaking remains of additive by means of the depression also applies to a device in which the base part is not in its entirety detachably connected to the device, such as for example the electrical device described in WO 98/51183. It is however also advantageously applicable in a device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair which is manually activated.

CLAIMS:

1. An electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair which device comprises:
 - a container for hair colouring additive, said container having a first side and a second side, said first side being covered by a base part provided with hair contacting elements and additive outlets, and an additive displacing member being provided in the vicinity of said second side,
 - electrical actuator means for forcing said additive displacing member towards the base part for expelling additive from said container through said additive outlets, characterized in that the base part is in its entirety detachably connected to the device.
2. A device as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the base part is in its entirety detachably connected to the container.
- 15 3. A device as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the device comprises at least one further base part which comprises further hair contacting elements and is in its entirety detachably connected to the device.
4. A device as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that the hair contacting 20 elements comprise hollow pins provided with an additive outlet.
5. A device as claimed in Claim 3, characterized in that the further hair contacting elements comprise brush hairs.
- 25 6. A device as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3, characterized in that a surface of at least one of the base parts, on which the hair contacting elements or the further hair contacting elements are provided, comprises a depression.

7. A device as claimed in Claim 6, characterized in that said depression is provided in the vicinity of the hair contacting elements or the further hair contacting elements.

5 8. A container for use in an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair comprising said container, said container having a first side and a second side, said first side being covered by a base part provided with hair contacting elements and additive outlets, an additive displacing member being provided in the vicinity of said second side, and said device further comprising electrical actuator means for forcing said additive 10 displacing member towards the base part for expelling additive from said container through said additive outlets, characterized in that the base part forms a part of the container and is in its entirety detachably connected to the container.

9. A container for use in an electrical device for applying a hair colouring 15 additive to hair as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the device comprises at least one further base part, which comprises further hair contacting elements and which base part forms a further part of the container and is in its entirety detachably connected to the container.

20 10. A container for use in an electrical device for applying a hair colouring additive to hair as claimed in claim 8 or 9, characterized in that a surface of at least one of the base parts, on which the hair contacting elements or the further hair contacting elements are provided, comprises a depression.

ABSTRACT:

The invention relates to an electrical device (2) for applying a hair colouring additive to hair which device comprises a container (3) for hair colouring additive, said container (3) having a first side (4) and a second side (5), said first side (4) being covered by a base part (6) provided with hair contacting elements (7) and additive outlets (8), and an additive displacing member being provided in the vicinity of said second side (5), electrical actuator means (10) for forcing said additive displacing member (9) towards the base part for expelling additive from said container (3) through said additive outlets (8), the base part (6) being in its entirety detachably connected to the device (2). Since the base part can be detached in its entirety from the device, the container is easily accessible for cleaning after use and thus more user-friendly.

1/2

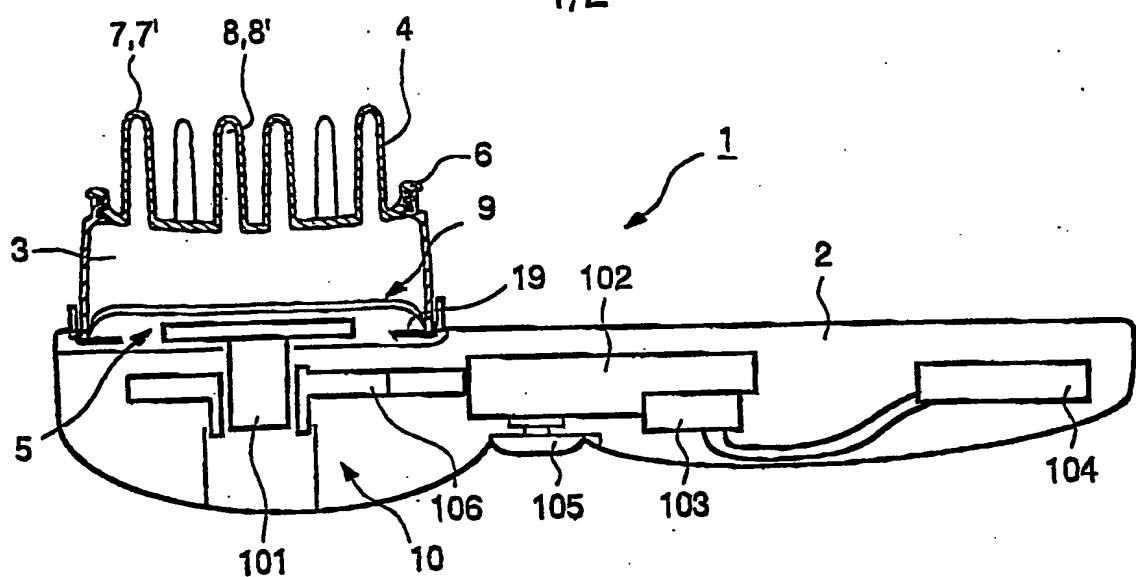


Fig.1

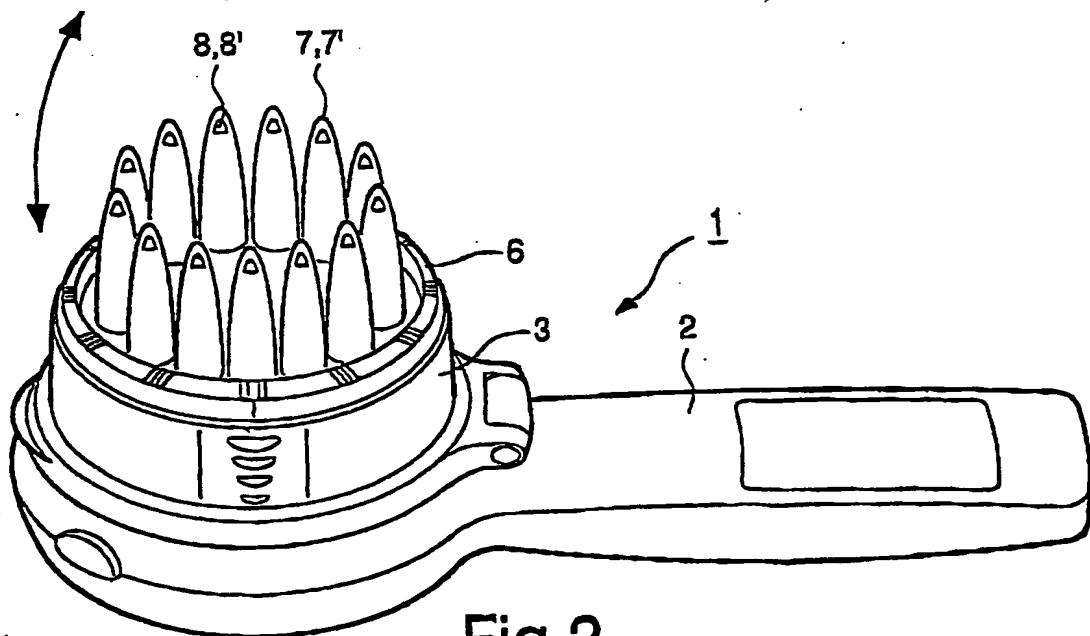
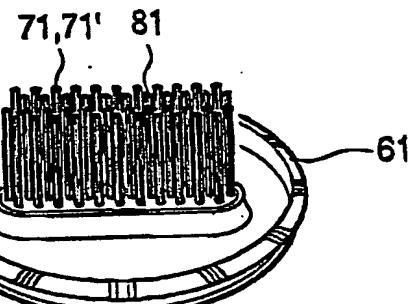


Fig.2

2/2

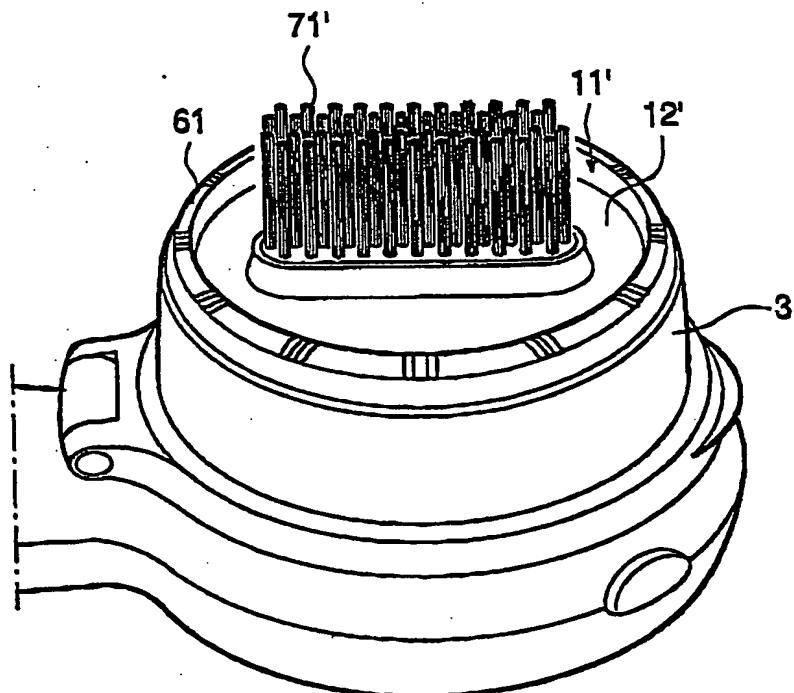


Fig. 3a

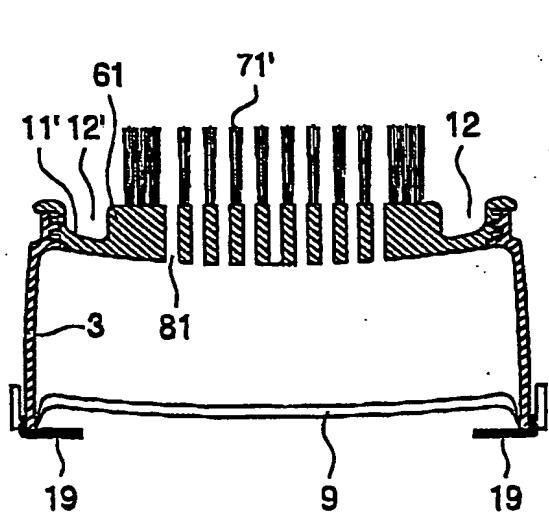


Fig. 3b

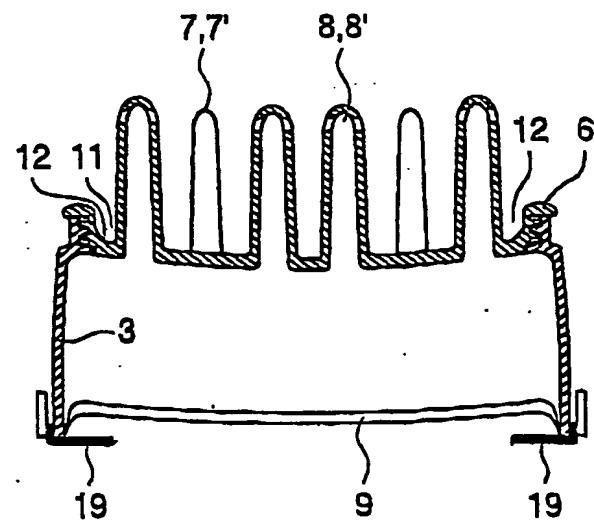


Fig. 3c

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